

COMIC SHOP NEWS

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329

WILDCATS

WildCATs, Cyberforce Develop Killer Instinct

Image fans will be excited enough to hear that both Cyberforce and WildCATs are returning in October as ongoing monthly series—but that's far from the only exciting news surrounding these two titles. **Cyberforce #1** and **WildCATs #5** are both prologues to the major four-part crossover storyline, **Killer Instinct**, that will run through both titles in November and December.

WildCATs #5, produced by Jim Lee, Brandon Choi, and Scott Williams, and **Cyberforce #1** produced by Marc and Eric Silvestri and Scott Williams, lay the groundwork for the two teams to come together to confront a common enemy: CyberData and the Cabal, who have formed an alliance. Members of the Cabal have infiltrated CyberData, and they have made the corporation's resources available to the Cabal, possibly giving them the tools they need to complete their diabolical schemes. This issue will also introduce



a new character, Misery, a woman who is romantically involved with both Warblade and RipClaw.

A month later, **Killer Instinct** begins in earnest in **WildCATs #6**; from there it continues into **Cyberforce #2**, **WildCATs #7**, and **Cyberforce #3**. The story will reveal details about Warblade and Misery's past involvement with CyberData; it will also resolve the love triangle involving Warblade, RipClaw, and Misery.

WildCATs #5-7 and **Cyberforce #1-3**, slated for monthly release in October, November, and December, are priced at \$1.95 each. The crossover will be supported by a tour and a contest in which the grand prize winner will be awarded \$1000.

by CLIFF BIGGERS

Milestone Steps Into Spotlight With Shadow War

It's been over three-quarters of a year since Milestone made its mark on the comics industry with the debut of the first of four books that formed the initial Milestone line. This fall, the company is moving into the second phase of operation with the release of a crossover event, **The Shadow War**, that will involve every hero in Milestone's Dakota Universe—and that will lead to the release of two new Milestone titles before the year is out.

From the very beginning, the Dakota Universe has been closely interrelated, with a central event—the Big Bang—playing a significant role in the creation of many of this universe's heroes. Before **The Shadow War** is completed, the heroes of the Dakota Universe (and the books' many fans) will learn the truth behind the Big Bang... and that truth will change the Dakota Universe forever.

The Shadow Cabinet, one of the two new books that will debut as a part of **The Shadow War**, is a secret group of superbeings dedicated to upholding the best in humanity. They're not actually a new group of heroes; they've been in action for a while in the Dakota Universe, but they've chosen to work behind the scenes rather than in the public spotlight. When the Star Chamber, a rogue faction of the Shadow Cabinet, discovers the existence of an incredibly destructive biochemical weapon, they dedicate themselves to gaining control of this weapon... and the Shadow War begins.

The Shadow Cabinet is a truly diverse multicultural hero team; the group, which led by the mysterious Dharma, comprises members of several nationalities and races. By the time the Shadow War is

over, Icon, Hardware, and Static will become a part of the group. **Shadow Cabinet #0**, the concluding segment of **The Shadow War** storyline, is written by Dwayne McDuffie and Robert L. Washington III and illustrated by John Paul Leon and Rober Quijano.



Xombi, the second title debuting as a part of **The Shadow War**, is a hero with a truly bizarre twist: he's a mortal man who has gained immortality through the injection of millions of nanomachines—microscopic robots capable of repairing his body, allowing him to recover from virtually any

and every injury. The result is a seemingly unstoppable hero. **Xombi #0** is written by John Rozum and illustrated by Denys Cowan and Jimmy Palmiotti.

The Shadow War begins on November 18th in **Hardware #11** (32 pages, \$1.50). It continues into **Icon #9** (32 pages, \$1.50) and **Xombi #0** (32 pages, \$1.95), both November 25th releases; **Blood Syndicate #10** (48 pages, \$2.50), a December 2nd release; and **Static #8** (32 pages, \$1.50) and **Shadow Cabinet #0** (48 pages, \$2.50), both December 9th releases. Each book will feature a Walter Simonson cover enhanced with spot-varnishing and a special metallic fifth ink. Both **Xombi #0** and **Shadow Cabinet #0** will be published on a special lightweight glossy paper stock that will enhance the more sophisticated coloring used in the Milestone line; the books will also feature a slightly heavier cover stock.

DC, the company responsible for the distribution and marketing of Milestone books, has proven its mastery of mass-media publicity with their brilliant promotion of recent **Superman** and **Batman** storylines. Once again, the company is making sure that the non-comics-reading world knows about this major comics event: **The Shadow War** will be promoted via 800 16-second plugs for **The Shadow War** on the syndicated quiz show **Star Quiz**, which is aired on 82 radio stations nationwide. This should create a potential audience for **The Shadow War** that extends far beyond the normal comics readership.

by KIM B. PEARSON

Solitaire Deals Out Justice For the Downtrodden



Some superheroes are in it for the fame and glory—but not Solitaire. He's a loner who has taken on the responsibility of protecting "the weirdos, the outcasts, and the victims of the world, especially in Los Angeles," according to writer/creator Gerard Jones... and it's a job that certainly keeps his schedule full!

When Solitaire isn't battling the criminals who prey on those who he hopes to protect, he plays cards in order to clear his mind; as you might suspect, his specialty is... well, do we really have to tell you?

In the first issue of **Solitaire**, readers meet King Pleasure, a serial killer who kidnaps and murders young runaways. Solitaire's hunt takes him into King Pleasure's hideout, the Pleasure Dome; the story also gives readers insights into Solitaire's background, as well as revealing secrets about his mysterious father.

Solitaire #1, a November release, is illustrated by Jeff Johnson and Barb Kaalberg; the first issue will be packaged in an opaque polybag along with one of four different special edition playing cards. 60% of the books will include an ace of clubs; 25%, an ace of diamonds; 10%, an ace of hearts; and 5%, an ace of spades. The first issue is priced at \$2.50; subsequent issues will carry a \$2.25 price.

by CLIFF BIGGERS

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COMIC SHOP NEWS
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Printed on 100% Recycled Newsprint



From Your Friendly Neighborhood Comics Outlet

Judge, Jury, and...

Very often, an accomplice is held responsible for the crimes committed by his partner. And as far as the Jury is concerned, Spider-Man is just such an accomplice... Venom is the partner... and the crime is murder... so that means that the Jury is ready to mete their own version of justice on Spider-Man. The "trial" takes place in **Amazing Spider-Man #384**—but we're not going to tell you what the sentence is. Spidey isn't the only character whose life may change as a result of the events in this issue; more clues are revealed concerning the truth about Peter's parents... and how their presence will affect Peter's life. **Amazing Spider-Man #384**, written by David Michelinie and illustrated by Mark Bagley and Randy Emberlin, is scheduled for October 14th release.



Dark Shadows Gets In the Spirit

Innovation's line of authorized **Dark Shadows** continuations continues this fall with the release of **Dark Shadows Book Three**, a four-issue limited series subtitled "A Motion and a Spirit" that focuses on Barnabas Collins and his long-dead sister Sarah. Described by Innovation as "a haunting mood piece in the gothic tradition, featuring a new slant on classic ghost stories," the series captures the macabre romantic tone of the **Dark Shadows** television series. **Dark Shadows Book Three #1**, a \$2.50 comic scheduled for mid-October release, is written by Scott Rockwell and fully painted by Felipe Echevarria.

New Blood Heroes Make a Splash In Bloodbath

DC's **Bloodlines** series, which has run through virtually every DC Annual this spring and summer, comes to a dramatic climax in **Bloodbath**, a two-issue limited series that features virtually every New Blood hero, led by the one true Superman.



Their objective is to wipe out the alien parasites responsible for the creation of these new heroes—but when they take the battle to the parasites' hidden home, they learn that there's an even more horrifying creature waiting for them, a being known as The Taker.

Bloodbath is written by Dan Raspler, who works with a variety of artists on the four segments of the story. The first half of **Bloodbath #1** is illustrated by Chuck Wojtkiewicz and Agop Gemojian; the second half is illustrated by Bill Willingham and Keith Wilson. Sal Velluto and Jeff Albrecht handle the art honors for the first half of the second issue, while Val Semeiks and Tom McWeeney illustrate the finale. Each 64-page \$3.50 issue will feature a fluorescent fifth cover ink. **Bloodbath #1** is scheduled for October 14th release; **Bloodbath #2** follows on October 21st.

By the Month They Came To Woodstock, They Were Thirteen Artists Strong

Under the direction of acclaimed comic book writer/artist Jim Starlin, Defiant Comics is distributing a **1994 Family of Woodstock Fantasy Benefit Calendar** produced exclusively for comic book shops. The Family of Woodstock, which receives all profits from the calendar, is a New York state charity that operates shelters for the homeless, abused and troubled children, and battered women; a free clothing store; soup kitchens; counseling; and a 24-hour a day telephone hotline. Like many charitable organizations, Family of Woodstock operates at a loss, which is why the profits from this Calendar can be so important to them.

A variety of artists have contributed to the calendar, including John Byrne, Tom Grindberg, Jeffrey Jones, Michael Wm. Kaluta, Angel Medina, Michael Ploog, Tom Raney, Marc Silvestri, Walt Simonson, Jim Starlin, Charles Vess, Barry Windsor-Smith, and Bernie Wrightson. The calendar is priced at a very affordable \$9.95, which makes it easy for you to know what day it is and help out a worthy charity at the same time. As with all specialty publications of this sort, you might want to reserve a copy of the **Family of Woodstock Fantasy Benefit Calendar** with your local comic shop—and tell 'em that you heard about it in **CSN**, okay?...



COMIC SHOP NEWS

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Alan Davis Fulfills His ClanDestiny

Alan Davis has been more or less absent from comics for several months now—but you don't have to worry that he's abandoned the medium. He'll be back in January with a new limited series, *ClanDestine*, a new super-hero series introducing this offbeat team. You won't have to wait that long to get a look at the group, though: Marvel UK is offering a preview of *Alan Davis's ClanDestine* in a special 32-page comic entitled (appropriately enough) *Alan Davis's ClanDestine Preview*. This book will feature a retrospective of Davis's work for Marvel, an interview with the writer/artist, and a look inside his sketchbooks to see how the new book developed visually... and, of course, there'll be a few preview pages offering fans and advance look at the new series. *Alan Davis's ClanDestine Preview* is slated for December 16th release; the first issue of the limited series will follow a month later.



Going Mobile

Mobile Suit Gundam 0083, one of the most popular and influential animated series ever produced in Japan, is finally coming to comics courtesy of Viz—and they've found a way

to design a book that should appeal to animation fans as well as comic fans. Viz's thirteen-issue *Mobile Suit Gundam 0083* series, which will be published in 48-page full-color editions, will be illustrated with actual cels from the animated series!

"This is a dream project for me, a real dream come true," series translator Toshifumi Yoshida said. "I've spent so many happy hours watching *Gundam*, and being involved in its translation for English-speaking fans is very exciting." *Gundam* originally began in 1979, when director Yoshiyuki Tomino introduced his *Mobile Suit Gundam* television series, whose classic space opera theme and its novice Federation pilot hero immediately found an eager audience in the *Star Wars* generation. *Gundam 0083*, the storyline being adapted into comics form, originally appeared in Japan as a thirteen-volume OAV series; it was edited into the much shorter film *Zeon's Fading Light*, which deleted a great deal of character development and secondary detail... detail that Viz will be adding to its comic-book adaptation. *Mobile Suit Gundam 0083 #1*, a \$4.95 book, is scheduled for November 4th release.

A Gross Error

Oops. It appears that we've made a very big error in our coverage of the upcoming Dark Horse miniseries, *The Shadow: In The Coils of the Leviathan*, a few issues ago. In that front-page article, we misnamed the co-writer of the series as Joel Gross, when the correct name is Joel Goss. We did manage to get the name correct in *CSN #327's* review of the book, but we sincerely apologize nevertheless for getting his name wrong the first time. One more time: the co-writer of the series is Joel Goss... and judging from the high quality of this latest *Shadow* adventure, you'll be looking for more material from him pretty soon.

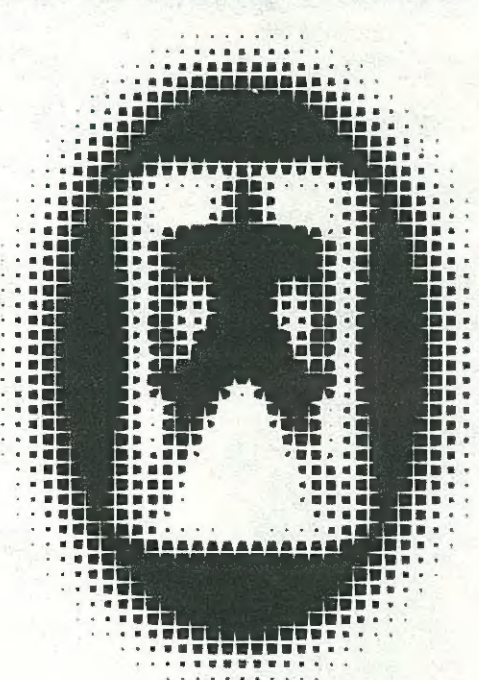
ROBIN

ALONE AT LAST!

It's cold, dark, dangerous. And there isn't a Batman in sight. Finally in his own ongoing monthly. Coming in October.

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**TWO FOES
FROZEN IN TIME...**



THE WORLD ISN'T READY FOR EITHER ONE

**DEMOLITION
MAN**



A 4-issue Miniseries adaptation of the hot Warner Bros. film starring Sylvester Stallone and Wesley Snipes. Coming in October.

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**IF *YOU* THINK HE'S
REVEALED *ALL* OF HIS SECRETS
— *THINK AGAIN***

SHADOWHAWK

III

THROUGH THE PAST, DARKLY
A FOUR ISSUE FINITE SERIES

ON SALE IN NOVEMBER. ONLY FROM **image**

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MORT THE DEAD TEENAGER #1 OF 4

PIMPLES SHOULD HAVE BEEN HIS BIGGEST PROBLEM... Puberty is bad enough for the living. Try getting a date when you're zit-faced and a corpse! Meet Mort the Dead Teenager, a kid who manages to literally lose his head while trying to impress a girl. But Mort's death is only the beginning of his adventures! By veteran Wolverine writer Larry Hama and zany artist Gary Hallgren.



HELLHOUND: THE REDEMPTION QUEST #1 OF 4

GIVING THE DEVIL HIS DUE Blues singer, John Roberts, makes a deal with the devil in order to become a great musician. Suddenly Roberts finds himself transformed into a ferocious Hellhound, forced to gather the souls of others who have also bargained with the dark lord. Will he ever be free again? John Miller and Floyd Hughes tell the tale in this fabulous painted limited series set in the 1930's.



epic comics

Hellhound



AVENGERS #369

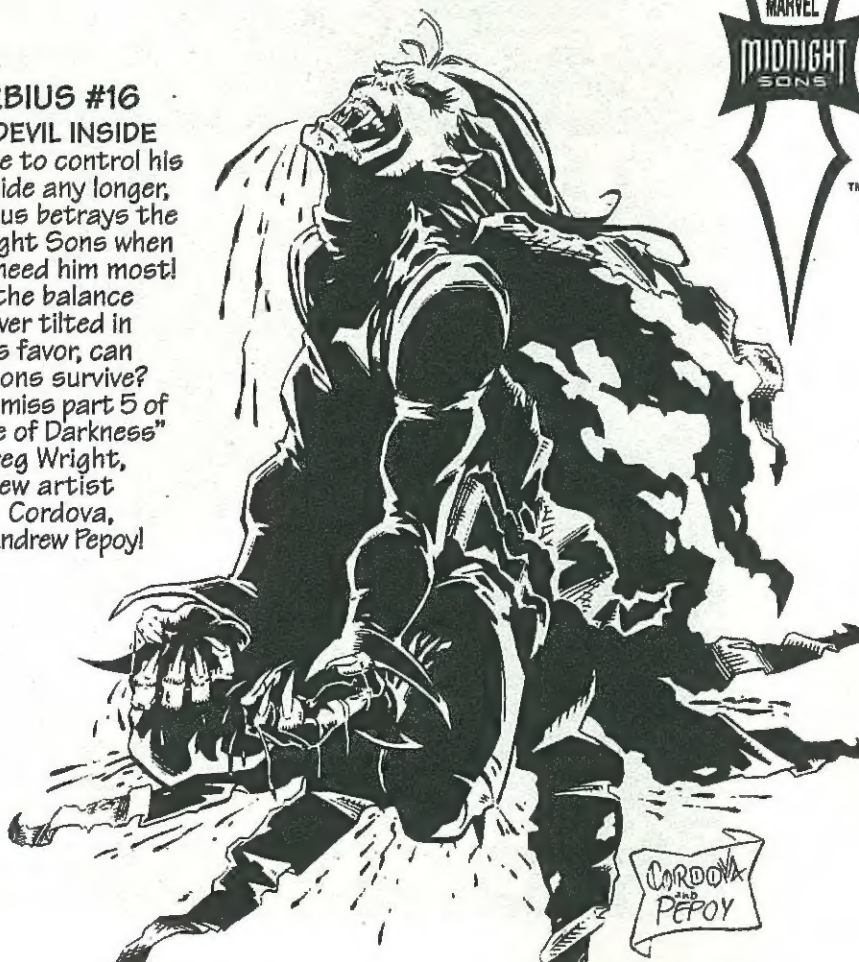
YOU SAY YOU WANT A RESOLUTION

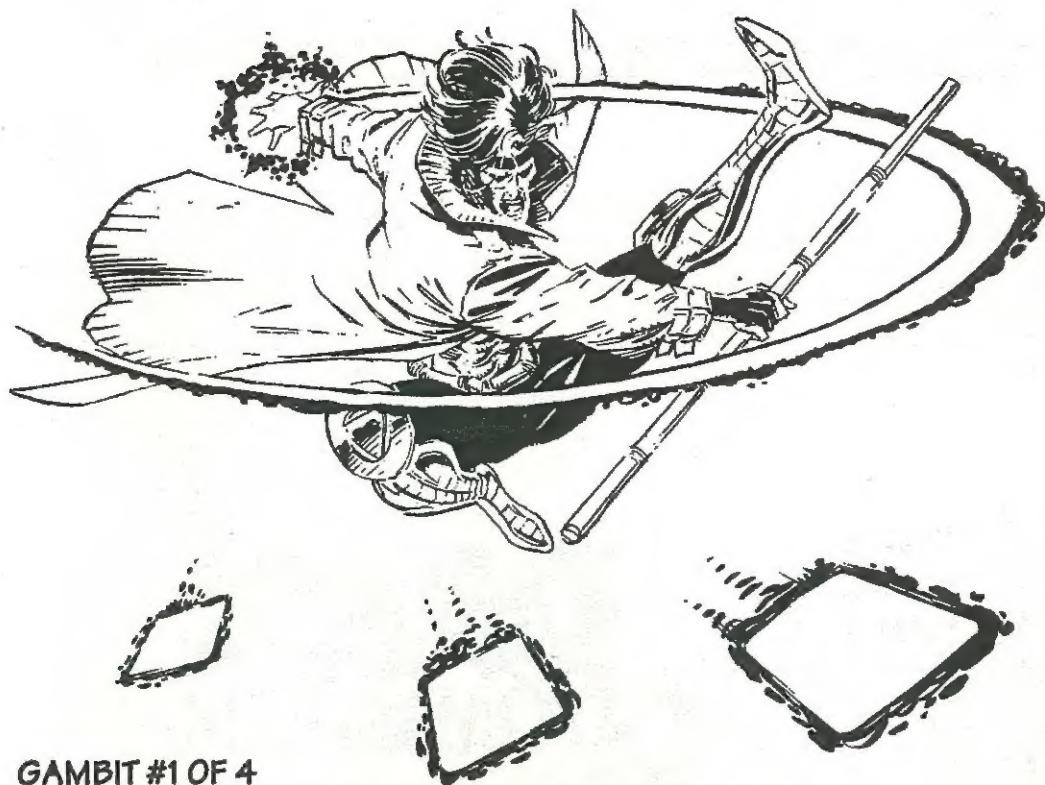
The X-Men/Avengers "Blood Ties" crossover comes to its incredible conclusion! The Avengers go all-out against Exodus! Don't miss the conclusion of the 30th Anniversary celebration! Bob Harras, Steve Epting, and Tom Palmer take a bowl! 48 Pages! Platinum foil-embossed cover! Whoa!



MORBIUS #16

THE DEVIL INSIDE Unable to control his Lilin side any longer, Morbius betrays the Midnight Sons when they need him most! With the balance of power tilted in Lilith's favor, can the Sons survive? Don't miss part 5 of "Siege of Darkness" by Greg Wright, hot new artist Isaac Cordova, and Andrew Pepoy!





GAMBIT #1 OF 4

THE RAGIN' CAJUN MAKES A RIOTOUS RETURN TO HIS ROOTS
When Gambit is summoned back to the Thieves' Guild during their greatest crisis, he finds himself on a desperate search for answers, a life extending elixir, and his dead wife, Bella Donna?! Before it's all over he'll have to fight off the Assassins Guild, an angry External, and maybe even a jealous Rogue! By Howard Mackie, Lee Weeks, and Klaus Janson.



BLOOD AND THUNDER WARLOCK AND THE INFINITY WATCH #23

CALLING IN THE CAVALRY

Pip teleports back to gather the rest of the Watch, leaving only Warlock and the Silver Surfer to hold off the brutally insane Thor! There's gonna be a whole lot of "Blood and Thunder" in part 4 of that very crossover. By Jim Starlin, Tom Grindberg, and Bob Almond.



THE PUNISHER



PUNISHER #85

PRE-VIEW TO A KILL!

The recession is hitting everyone pretty hard. Even anti-terrorist groups like V.I.G.I.L. Faced with the threat of having their budget entirely cut, they must bring in the Punisher, dead or alive, or be disbanded! Odds are, Frank will make them wish they all retired! By Steven Grant, Hugh Haynes, Mark McKenna, and Mick Gray.



AVENGERS SOFTCOVER MASTERWORKS

THE FIRST OF EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES!
Relive the classic first five issues of the Avengers! These gems include the origin of the Avengers as well as their first battles with Loki, Space Phantom, the Lava Men, and Namor! Also, witness Captain America's return to the comic book fold. Stan Lee/Jack Kirby classics, all in an affordable format!

OCTOBER HOT PICKS!

by cliff biggers

It's the Halloween month once again—but the biggest scare most comics fans will face is trying to figure out how to pay for the trick-or-treat-bag full of comic books that are slated for October release. Believe it or not, there are almost as many books slated to hit the stands this month as there were in the peak of the summer comics bonanza! To help make the choices a little easier, CSN has picked out the top two dozen books; these are the treats that deserve a first look.

BAREFOOT GEN 4: OUT OF THE ASHES

There's nothing I can say about Keiji Nakazawa's brilliant *Barefoot Gen* that could be too complimentary; this volume, which completes the story of a young Hiroshima boy's life immediately after the dropping of the first atomic bomb, is the final quarter of an enormous graphic novel... but it also stands alone quite well, so you should pick it up even if you haven't read the earlier volumes. This is the first time that this material has been available in English—and New Society Publishers deserves many kudos for putting in the effort to make it possible for American comics fans to enjoy this major addition to the artform. (*New Society*, \$12.95; also available in a boxed 4-volume set for \$45.95)

BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT HAL- LOWEEN SPECIAL

What villain could be more appropriate for a Batman Halloween Special than the Scare-

crow? Jeph Loeb and Tim Sale have teamed up to present a graphic-novel-sized Scarecrow saga at a less-than-graphic-novel-sized price. DC is adding a foil-enhanced cover to the mix to make sure that you don't miss this one; it's a must-have for those of you who are already longing for the true Bruce Wayne Batman. (DC, \$6.95)

BATMAN: TWO-FACE STRIKES TWICE 1

A two-issue miniseries that features two stories in each issue, with two covers, all done in two different styles... it could only be a Two-Face project, couldn't it? Well, that's exactly what it is, and it's the brainchild of one writer, Mike W. Barr, whose Batman expertise goes way back. One side of this book, illustrated by Joe Staton, is done in a Golden-Age Dick Sprang style (and Sprang himself supplies the covers for that side), while the other side features a later Two-Face confrontation done in a modern Batman style by Daerick Gross, making his Dark Knight debut. (DC, \$4.95)

BLAZE 1

The former Ghost Rider becomes Marvel newest star in this miniseries written by Howard Mackie and illustrated by Ron Wagner. Blaze becomes the target for a cornucopia of mystical menaces as he seeks to save his family from death at the hands of a villain who will play a major role in upcoming Midnight Sons storylines. (Marvel, \$1.75)

CHILDREN'S CRUSADE 1

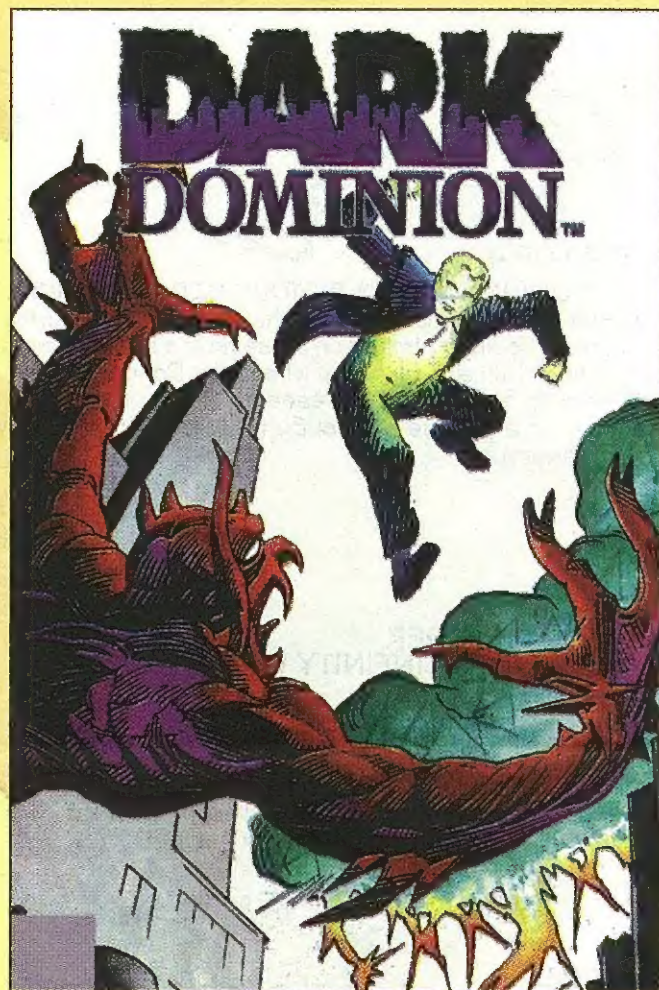
This is the first of two special "bookend issues" that frame the *Children's Crusade* series; the other installments will appear in six different Vertigo Annals this fall. The children of Free Country hold the fate of the world in their hands, and it's up to a few very powerful children to make sure that they don't make the wrong choices. (Vertigo/DC, \$3.95)

CYBER- FORCE 1

Marc & Eric Silvestri's *Cyberforce*, one of Image's most popular miniseries, earns its ongoing series status this month... and it kicks off with a bang—a big bang that sets the stage for a major WildCATs-Cyberforce crossover. What more can you ask for? Grab it quick, because it's not likely to sit on the stands for very long... (Image, \$1.95)

DARK DOMINION 1

Defiant debuts its second series this month—and this one is a much more down-to-earth affair. *Dark Dominion* is set in New York City, where Michael Alexander devotes his not-insignificant mystical talents battling the evil creatures who dwell in the Quantum Substratum of reality. They know him as Glare or Glint; the forces of good refer to him as Glimmer, for he offers them their last glimmer of hope. If he fails, the evil beings will rebuild our world as a Dark Dominion... Jim Shooter joins forces with the two Steves, Ditko and Leialoha, to create this exciting new series that greatly expands the Defiant Universe. (Defiant, \$2.95)



DRACULA VS. ZORRO 1

Bram Stoker's eternal vampire meets the famous Mexican hero in this fantasy-filled series

written by Don McGregor and illustrated by Tom Yeates and Rick Magyar. The action begins in Toledo, Spain, where Zorro has come to find a new sword... and Dracula has come to find a new victim... (Topps, \$2.95)

GAMBIT 1

The Ragin' Cajun gets his own miniseries this month, and you can be sure it's going to be one of the biggest sellers of the fall; Gambit's popularity rivals Wolverine's right now, and this series offers fans the first real insight into Gambit's background. It also reveals the true fate of Bella Donna, so you can be that Gambit will be just as interested as his many fans to find out what's happening next. (Marvel, \$2.50)

GREGORY IV: FAT BOY

Marc Hempel's Gregory is back in a new 64-page prestige-format one-shot... that's the good news. We





JURASSIC PARK

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- ▲ Each pack contains a full SkyCap checklist and game instructions.

Odds of finding bonus SkyCaps 1:9, *Jurassic Park* SkyCap Slammer 1:18. *Jurassic Park* SkyCap Slammer replaces two SkyCaps.

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won't give you the bad news quite yet, though. This time around, Gregory finds a nice new home, complete with a typical American family... but as both Gregory and the readers soon discover, the family makes Gregory look pretty normal by comparison. Oh, yeah, the bad news: this is the last outing for Gregory, at least for a while... but you can still laugh at the loveable little guy's misadventures one more time. (DC/Piranha, \$4.95)

HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY 1

Arthur Dent offers a warped human's-eye view of the galaxy as he's taken on a very unusual tour courtesy of Zaphod Beeblebrox. Douglas Adams' eccentric science fiction saga has already been a major hit in video, audio, and book form; now it comes to comics courtesy of John Carnell and Steve Leialoha. There's a very large ready-made audience for this series, many of whom aren't comics fans, so don't be surprised if you meet some new people elbowing their way to the racks for this one. (DC, \$4.95)

JURASSIC PARK TPB

So why is this movie adaptation in our Hot Picks listing rather than our "Second Chance" reprint-highlights section? Well, it is a complete reprinting of the Walt Simonson-Gil Kane-George Perez movie adaptation—but what makes it a Hot Pick is that it's polybagged with an exclusive sixteen-page *Jurassic Park #0*, featuring two all-new stories by Walt Simonson, Gil Kane, and Dave Cockrum. You can't get it anywhere else but here—and if you don't act quickly, you won't



be able to get it anywhere, because this one is likely to sell out quickly. (Topps, \$9.95)

MELTING POT 1

Kevin Eastman, co-creator of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and Simon Bisley, ace illustrator of Lobo, join forces to create the surreal story of a crazyquilt world created by a demigod and populated by species gathered from all across the galaxy. In this world where almost anything can happen, one being decides it's time for the inmates to take control of the asylum, so to speak... (Kitchen Sink, \$2.95)

NEW ADVENTURES OF SPEED RACER 1

Speed Racer meets the 90's in the debut issue of this all-new series. *Speed Racer* has become cooler than ever thanks to the success of his current MTV run and his new animated adventures coming up this fall; now the *Speed Racer* revamping continues into the comics as well. Don't worry, though, he's not a leather-jacket-wearing angst-ridden existentialist grim-n-gritty-avenger whose car is an alien symbiote like those other revamped heroes... at least not in the first few issues... (Now, \$1.95)

NIGHT MAN 1

There are a lot of heroes who operate under cover of night, but few of them have Johnny Domino's reason for doing so: he can't sleep! We're not talking about occasional insomnia here... this guy never, ever sleeps. Furthermore, he can see in the dark. And he can hear evil thoughts. That's how he becomes the Night Man, the hero who brings a little brightness to the dark. This debut issue also includes a chapter of the Chris Ulm-Barry Windsor-Smith *Rune* series. (Malibu, \$2.50)

OZ 1

When Adam Cash, Andrea Fairlane, and Julie Calloway open an old leatherbound book, the world they find themselves transported to is quite different than the Oz that they had come to know through the ever-popular film. Their first attack comes not from

OVERLOOKED

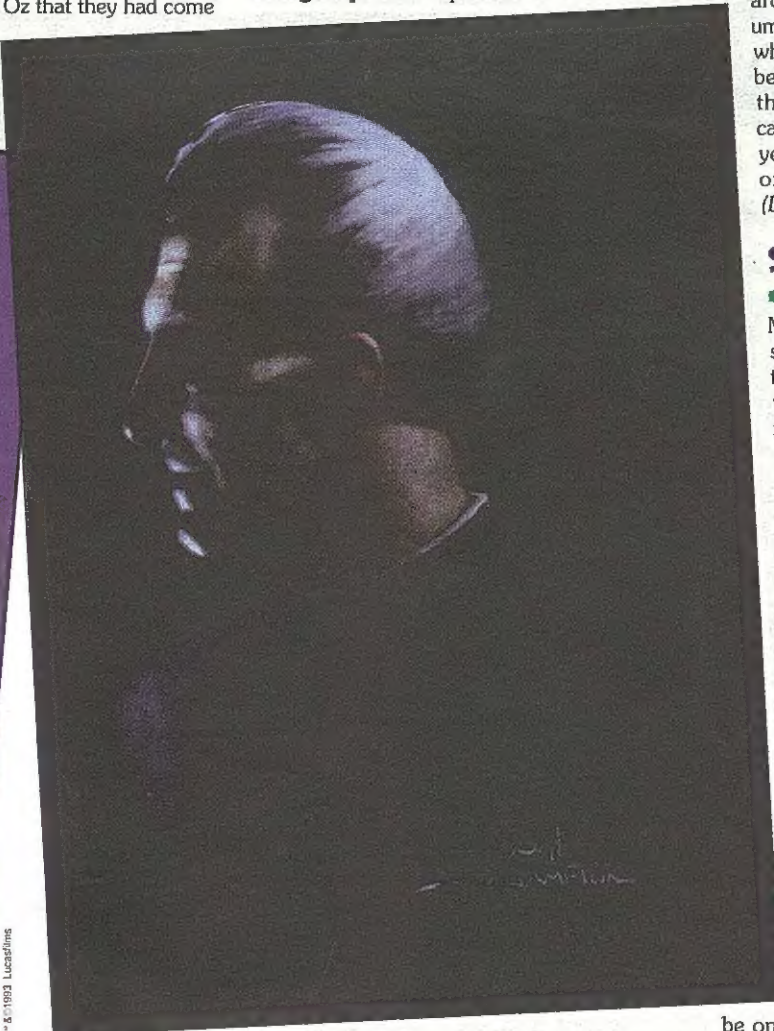
Actually, there are three gems that deserve special mention this time around: *Book of the Dead*, *Curse of the Weird*, and *Monster Menace*. Each book offers a selection of reprint horror-fantasy gems from various Marvel eras. *Curse of the Weird* takes readers back to the pre-code days of the early 1950's, reprinting rarities from the Atlas Comics days by talents such as Joe Maneely, Bill Everett, Basil Wolverton, and Steve Ditko. *Monster Menace* returns to the glory days of the Marvel pre-hero monster books, with stunning stories and art by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby, and Steve Ditko; these are the stories that helped pave the way for the Marvel Age of Comics. *Book of the Dead* reprints Marvel horror tales from the 1970's, including Mike Ploog's underrated *Frankenstein* series and primo Man-Thing material. So much attention has been focused on EC fantasy-horror material that many readers are unaware of how stunning much of this classic Marvel stuff could be—but now everyone can find out without spending too much money in the process! (Marvel, \$1.75 for *Book of the Dead*, \$1.25 for *Curse of the Weird* and *Monster Menace*)

SIZZLER!

an evil witch or flying monkeys, but from the Munchkins! So why is Oz such the antithesis of what they anticipated? That's what the trio tries to find out in this new series by Sanchez, Griffith, Bryan, and Smith. (Arrow, \$2.75)

ROBIN 1

Well, the new Batman has pretty much thrown him out of the Batcave, so it's only natural that Robin would look for a new home in this, his first ongoing series in comics history. With a new comic comes a new group of supporting characters, a new base of operations, and a new vehicle. Chuck Dixon, writer of the *Robin* miniseries, is joined by former *New Titans* artist Tom Grummett in this *Batman-Knightquest* spinoff.



There's a deluxe enhanced collectors' edition for fans who want only the best, as well as a standard-format edition for those who are a bit more budget-minded but still don't want to miss out on this landmark book. (DC, \$2.95/\$1.50)

SCARAB 1

Vertigo takes us back into a Golden Age that you may not quite remember... because it's never existed until now. *The Scarab* is the story of a Golden Age hero who is now just Louis Sendak, an old man filled with regrets. His wife was lost as a result of his superhero exploits as the Scarab... but when Louis learns that he may be able to rescue his wife from the nightmare reality of the Labyrinth, he has to decide if he can once again don the costume and become a superhero. *Scarab* offers an intriguing Vertigo take on the larger-than-life Golden Age mythos, and the result is a book that should appeal to fans of sophisticated fantasy-adventure. (Vertigo/DC, \$1.95)

SHADOW: IN THE COILS OF THE LEVIATHAN 1

The Shadow is back, and Mike Kaluta once again plays a part in the mysterious hero's return—but this time, he's writer, not artist, of the new 30's-based limited series. Gary Gianni, whose stunning art has appeared in *Hard Looks*, brings a real period feel to the visuals in this series. It's the Shadow the way he should be portrayed, and you can be sure that no one's going to cloud fans' minds when this book hits the stands. For those of you who are still depressed about the news that Mike Kaluta isn't drawing the series... well, he is supplying a cover that's also reproduced as a centerspread poster, so at least there's some new Kaluta art... (Dark Horse, \$2.95)

STAR WARS: TALES OF THE JEDI 1

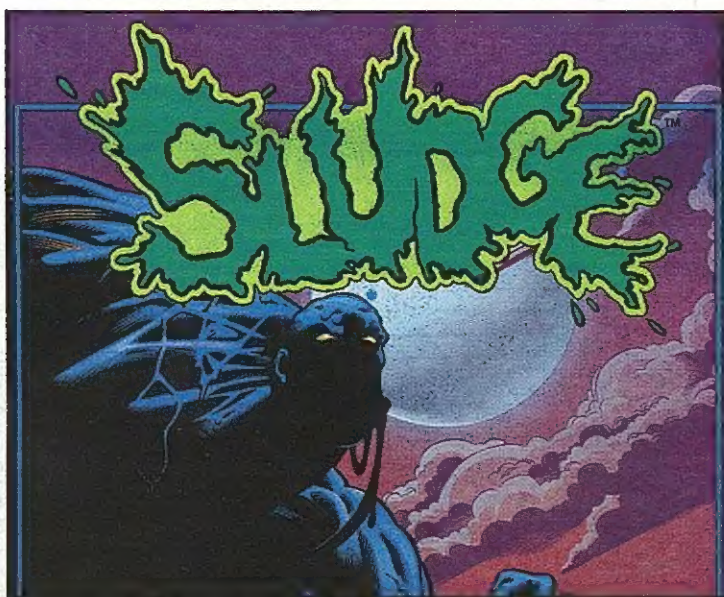
Tom Veitch, Chris Gossett, and Mike Barreiro handle the creative honors for Dark Horse's second *Star Wars* miniseries. This time around, readers are taken back a millennium before the events of *Star Wars*, to a time when the Jedi Knights were still a force to be reckoned with. *Star Wars* is hotter than ever, having generated hit books, cards, and deluxe video releases in the past year, and this new comic book series will only add to the *Star Wars* mystique. (Dark Horse, \$2.50)

SLUDGE 1

Malibu has come out the winner of the summer-of-93-new-universe-rollout, and they're continuing to premiere new *Ultra*-verse series that are just as good as their initial titles. *Sludge*, a new title by Steve Gerber and Aaron Lopresti, is a monster-hero story about a cop on the take who becomes a sludge-like hero when mobsters supposedly kill him and dump the body in sewers filled with pharmaceutical chemicals. He's not dead, though (obviously not, or this would be a short-lived series...)—but the mobsters who tried to kill him may wish that they were before it's all over... This premiere issue also features a chapter of Chris Ulm and Barry Windsor-Smith's *Rune*. (Malibu/Ultraverse, \$2.50)

VALIANT VISION STARTER KIT

Okay, so it isn't *exactly* a comic—but it contains a comic, and this special Valiant Vision book will never be available anywhere else. This is likely to be one of the rarest of all Valiant comics, so



most savage adversaries! With Wolverine weakened after the ordeal he underwent in Wolverine #75, the group needs a replacement... and Sabretooth looks to be a likely choice. Fabian Nicieza, Mike McKone, and Mark McKenna tell the landmark tale that will help make the X-Men more popular than ever before. (Marvel, \$3.95)



Last Week CSN featured the Complete October Checklist.

Next Week CSN will feature a special surprise interview. You'll have to be here to find out who...

COMIC SHOP NEWS

MISS A WEEK AND
YOU MISS A LOT!

don't miss out while you have the chance. And once you have the Valiant Vision glasses, you can enjoy the 3-D features of other Valiant Vision books like **Solar #29**, also slated for release this month. (Valiant, \$2.95)

WILDCATS 5

WildCATs are back—and this time, it's an ongoing series, not a miniseries. In the first issue of the regular monthly title, the WildCATs discover that the Cabal has an inside man in Cyberdata... and this paves the way for the major WildCATs-Cyberforce crossover coming up later this fall. (Image, \$1.95)

X-MEN UNLIMITED 3

This is a must-have issue as the X-Men gain a new member—and he's formerly one of their

SECOND CHANCE THE BEST OF THE REPRINT VOLUMES

Avengers Masterworks: A bargain-priced trade paperback reprinting **Avengers #s 1-5**, featuring the origin of the group, the return of Captain America, and more. (Marvel, \$12.95)

Barefoot Gen Boxed Set: A four-in-one edition collecting the entire English-language Barefoot Gen saga in a boxed set; comics don't get any better—or more moving—than this. (New Society, \$45.95)

Captain America: Deathlok Lives: A bookshelf-format reprint of the final adventure of the original Deathlok. (Marvel, \$4.95)

Elfquest: New Blood: Hardcover format reprint of the early issues of the New Blood series. (Warp, \$19.95)

Evil Ernie: Youth Gone Wild: Collects the first four-issue Evil Ernie miniseries and adds twenty pages of new material.

Marvel Masterworks 25: What a must-have collection! **Fantastic Four #s 41-50** and **FF Annual #3** are compiled in this hefty hardcover; this includes the first appearance of Black Bolt and the Inhumans, Galactus, and Silver Surfer. (Marvel, \$34.95)

Spectre: Crimes & Punishments: The new **Spectre #s 1-4** are collected in one volume that is enhanced with a new glow-in-the-dark Tom Mandrake cover. (DC, \$9.95)

Vampirella: If you've tried to find **Vampirella #s 1-4** and failed, then you'll appreciate this trade paperback compilation of the entire Vampi-vs.-Dracula storyline. (Harris, \$5.95)

Mirage ad

December



Releases

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA

TURTLES

FLAMING
CARROT
CROSSOVER

PART TWO
OF A
FOUR PART
SERIES BY
BOB BURDEN

No. 2

...WITH ART
BY JIM
LAWSON
IN FULL
FLAMING
COLOR!

COLOR

XENOTECH



COLOR

No. 3

BY MICHAEL DOONEY



TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA

TURTLES

JIM LAWSON

JASON TEMUJIN MINOR

FULL-COLOR
VOLUME
No. 2
FULL-COLOR

cover by
PETER
LAIRD!

MARVEL HOT PICKS



VENOM: THE MADNESS #3!

The Symbiote struggles to purge himself of the toxic waste as the Juggernaut attacks! All beautifully rendered by Kelley Jones on glossy stock!



DEATH WRECK #1!

This smash-em-up title premieres with a metallic ink cover featuring the original Death's Head prototype!

© 1993 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer



METEOR MAN #8!

The action-fest limited series based on the movie comes to a smashing finale as Meteor Man puts out all the stops to defeat his foes.



MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #146! A spot-varnish cover highlights this all-Midnight Sons issue in part 14 of the Siege of Darkness crossover!



DEATH METAL #11!

After Death's Head II, they thought they broke the mold. They were wrong! Death Metal, premieres with a metallic ink cover!



DEATHLOK #31!

The original Deathlok is back and he doesn't take kindly to other cyborgs using his name! Deathloks past and present fight it out and only one walks away!



**MARVEL COMICS
SHIPPING
THE WEEK OF
NOVEMBER 23RD**